GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6351
ANSWERED ON:12.04.2017
Allocation of 4G Spectrum to BSNL
Rajesh Shri M. B.

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has initiated allocation of 4G Spectrum through auction;

(b) if so, the details and the status thereof;

(c) whether BSNL has requested the Government for the allocation of 4G Spectrum;

(d) if so, whether the Government has taken a decision on BSNL's request; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS &
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a) & (b) The Government auctions spectrum in various frequency bands, without specifying any technology. It is for Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) to deploy the technology (2G, 3G, 4G etc.) within the spectrum acquired by them in various frequency bands. In the last spectrum auction conducted in October 2016, a total of 2354.75 MHz spectrum was put to auction in 700 MHz, 800 MHz, 900 MHz, 1800 MHz, 2100 MHz, 2300 MHz and 2500 MHz bands. Out of 2354.75 MHz spectrum, 964.80 MHz of spectrum in various bands was sold. Some TSPs have deployed 4G services in 800 MHz, 1800 MHz, 2300 MHz and 2500 MHz bands.

(c) to (e) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has requested either to allocate a 5 MHz slot in 700 MHz band through Equity Infusion route or to allocate a 5 MHz slot in 2100 MHz band for providing 4G services on temporary basis. No decision has been taken on this request of BSNL so far. Further, entire available spectrum in 700 MHz band for telecom services was put to auction in the spectrum auction held in October 2016. BSNL did not participate in the auction.

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